

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An electric motor comprising:
 - a stator;
 - a rotor within said stator, said rotor including an output drive element;
 - a housing partially enclosing said stator and rotor;
 - a plastic end bell disposed over an end of said housing to enclose said stator and rotor, said end bell having a metallic bearing carried thereby, said bearing rotatably supporting an end of said drive element;
 - a ground terminal connected to said end bell, said terminal adapted for connection to an external ground lead; and
 - an internal grounding conductor in said end bell and being in electrical connection with said bearing, said stator and said ground terminal.
2. The electric motor of Claim 1, wherein said end bell further includes at least one aperture therein, said aperture receiving a plurality of external electrical leads, one of said plurality of external electrical leads being a ground lead connected to said ground terminal.
3. The electric motor of Claim 2, wherein said ground terminal extends above an interior surface of said end bell.
4. The motor of Claim 1 wherein said bearing is a bushing and said rotor drive element is a shaft, one end of said shaft being received in said bushing.
5. The motor of Claim 1 wherein said internal grounding conductor is a metal grounding strip at least partially embedded in said end bell.
6. The motor of Claim 1 wherein said grounding conductor comprises a first grounding strip extending from said bearing to said ground terminal and a second grounding strip extending from said ground terminal and being electrically connected to said stator.
7. The motor of Claim 6 wherein said motor housing is metallic and is in electrical contact with said stator, and including a plurality of metal screws connecting said end bell to said motor housing, and wherein said second grounding strip is in electrical connection with one of said metal screws.
8. The motor of Claim 1 wherein said motor housing is metallic and is in electrical contact with the said stator, and including a plurality of metal screws connecting said end bell to said motor housing, wherein said internal grounding

conductor electrically connects said ground terminal to at least one of said metal screws to thereby ground said stator.

9. The motor of Claim 8 wherein said grounding conductor is a metallic grounding strip at least partially embedded in said end bell.

10. The motor of Claim 9 wherein said grounding strip comprises a first grounding strip extending from said bearing to said ground terminal and a second grounding strip extending from said ground terminal to said at least one metal screw.

11. The motor of Claim 1 wherein said motor is a starter motor for an engine and said starter motor includes a starter drive mechanism on an opposite end of said drive element from said end supported in said bearing.

12. The motor of Claim 1 and including a second plastic end bell disposed on an opposite end of said motor housing.